

Impact factor 2016

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The newest Journal Citation Report (JCR), released on June 14, 2017, features 11 459 journals in 236 disciplines from 81 countries. A total of 132 journals received their first impact factor (IF) in 2017. A year-over-year increase in the IF values has been reported for 66% of journals, while 33% have lower IFs in the current JCR. Criticisms

in the scientific community focuses on the over-rated importance of the IF for research funders to judge the quality of research and for universities to evaluate the quality of an individual publication or researcher. Despite numerous flaws ascribed to a journal's IF, this measure of a journal's

TABLE 1 Impact factors of Polish biomedical journals (source: Web of Science, June 22, 2017)

Journal	IF ₂₀₁₆	IF ₂₀₁₅
Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology	↑ 2.883	2.804
Pharmacological Reports	↑ 2.587	2.251
Polish Archives of Internal Medicine	↑ 2.191	2.054
Archivum Immunologiae et Therapiae Experimentalis	↓ 2.040	2.464
Archives of Medical Science	↑ 1.969	1.812
Postępy Dermatologii i Alergologii	↑ 1.683	1.342
Journal of Applied Genetics	↓ 1.655	1.929
Hereditary Cancer in Clinical Practice	↑ 1.590	1.550
Journal of Contemporary Brachytherapy	↑ 1.496	1.413
Advances in Medical Sciences	↑ 1.364	1.211
Endokrynologia Polska	↑ 1.341	1.112
Kardiologia Polska	↑ 1.341	0.878
Cardiology Journal	↑ 1.256	1.130
Annals of Transplantation	↑ 1.252	1.032
Acta Neurobiologiae Experimentalis	↓ 1.207	1.708
Advances in Clinical and Experimental Medicine	↑ 1.179	1.127
Acta Parasitologica	↓ 1.160	1.293
Folia Neuropathologica	↓ 1.093	1.233
Psychiatria Polska	↑ 1.010	0.884
Translational Neuroscience	↓ 0.922	1.012
Postępy w Kardiologii Interwencyjnej	↑ 0.917	0.358
Neurologia i Neurochirurgia Polska	↑ 0.857	0.747
Central European Journal of Immunology	↑ 0.776	0.309
Postępy Higieny i Medycyny Doświadczalnej	↓ 0.690	0.769
Ginekologia Polska	↓ 0.576	0.609
Videosurgery and Other Miniinvasive Techniques	↓ 0.493	0.920
Folia Morphologica	↓ 0.341	0.469
Open Medicine	0.294	–
Central European Journal of Medicine	↓ 0.116	0.309

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Received: June 23, 2017.

Accepted: June 23, 2017.

Published online: June 30, 2017.

Conflict of interests: none declared.

Pol Arch Intern Med. 2017;

127 (6): 381-382

doi:10.20452/pamw.4056

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TABLE 2 Most cited original papers contributing to IF₂₀₁₆ (source: Web of Science, June 22, 2017)

No.	Paper	Citation count in 2016 (total citation count)
1	Bioresorbable vascular scaffolds in patients with acute coronary syndromes: the POLAR ACS study. Dudek D, Rzeszutko Ł, Zasada W, et al. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2014; 124: 669-677.	18 (29)
2	Effect of vitamin K-2 on progression of atherosclerosis and vascular calcification in nondialyzed patients with chronic kidney disease stages 3–5. Kurnatowska I, Grzelak P, Masajtis-Zagajewska A, et al. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2015; 125: 631-640.	7 (12)
3	General population reference values for 3-level EQ-5D (EQ-5D-3L) questionnaire in Poland. Golicki D, Niewada M. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2015; 125: 18-26.	7 (10)
4	Usefulness of different ultrasound features of malignancy in predicting the type of thyroid lesions: a meta-analysis of prospective studies. Wolinski K, Szkudlarek M, Szczepanek-Parulska E, et al. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2014; 124: 97-104.	6 (9)
5	Comparison of conventional and ultrasound-guided needle biopsy techniques in the diagnosis of sarcoidosis: a randomized trial. Gnass M, Szlubowski A, Soja J, et al. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2015; 125: 321-328.	6 (8)

TABLE 3 Most cited review papers contributing to IF₂₀₁₆ (source: Web of Science, June 22, 2017)

No.	Paper	Citation count in 2016 (total citation count)
1	Practical aspects of new oral anticoagulant use in atrial fibrillation. Undas A, Pasierski T, Windyga J, Crowther M. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2014; 124: 124-135.	13 (27)
2	Genetic risk factors of atherothrombosis. Montagnana M, Danese E, Lippi G. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2014; 124: 474-482.	9 (15)
3	New advances in stem cell research: practical implications for regenerative medicine. Ratajczak MZ, Jadczyk T, Pedziwiatr D, et al. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2014; 124: 417-426.	8 (17)
4	Drink your prevention: beverages with cancer preventive phytochemicals. Rossi T, Gallo C, Bassani B, et al. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2014; 124: 713-722.	8 (12)
5	Prevention of ischemic stroke in clinical practice: a role of internists and general practitioners. Niewada M, Członkowska A. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2014; 124: 540-548.	6 (11)
6	The biomarker paradigm: between diagnostic efficiency and clinical efficacy. Lippi G, Mattiuzzi C. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2015; 125: 282-288.	6 (11)
7	How to predict and diagnose postthrombotic syndrome. Rabinovich A, Kahn SR. <i>Pol Arch Med Wewn.</i> 2014; 124: 410-416.	6 (7)

position among other periodicals is significant in terms of increasing the credibility of the journal.

The 2016 IF for *Pol Arch Intern Med* (formerly *Pol Arch Med Wewn*) has increased to 2.191. However, since there was a discrepancy between our estimated denominator and the final denominator shown by the JCR, we decided to report this to Thomson Reuters and ask for feedback. In response, we were informed that indeed an error had occurred and the number of citable items has now been adjusted. The projected new IF is 2.309, and a JCR update with new metrics will be released in September.

The journal impact factor is the ratio of the last year's citations to articles published in that journal in the 2 previous years. Journals with higher IFs are considered to be more influential than those with lower ones. Among Polish biomedical journals, our standing is solid as reflected in the list presented in [TABLE 1](#).

The largest contribution to the 2016 IF of the *Pol Arch Intern Med* has been provided by

several original and review papers covering broad topics across the spectrum of internal diseases; the most highly cited articles in 2016 that were published in the years 2014 and 2015 are listed in [TABLE 2](#) (original papers) and [TABLE 3](#) (reviews).

On behalf of the Polish Society of Internists, I am indebted to the authors who sent us excellent reviews and original articles, readers who have cited our papers, and executive members of the Scientific Board, who have supported us. Above all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to my closest collaborator, Vice-Editor-in-Chief Professor Grzegorz Gajos, and the editorial team, Małgorzata Wiesner and Weronika Kuźdżał, for their hard work. We will try our best to hopefully increase the IF and to make the *Pol Arch Intern Med* a world-level journal. Thank you for your continuous support.